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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/480,689	01/11/2000	Min-Young Heo	06192.0102	4622

22930 7590 11/04/2002

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EXAMINER

RAO, SHRINIVAS H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

*contacted Hae-Chan Park  
5/1/03 @ 3:40 PM -  
left message to call back*

A12

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/480,689	HEO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Steven H. Rao	2814	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some \*   c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                             | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

Receipt is acknowledged of paper submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), claiming priority from parent U.S. Serial No. 09/480,689 filed on 01/11/00 which itself claims priority from Korean Patent Application No. 99-4979 filed on December 02, 2002 which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Continued Prosecution Application***

The request filed on 8/19/2002 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/480,689 is acceptable and entered on August 23, 2002 to establish a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

### ***Preliminary Amendment Status***

Acknowledgment is made of entry of preliminary amendment filed 6/18/2002 (also has Amendment after Final) has been entered on August 23, 2002.

Therefore claims 7 and 9 as amended by the preliminary amendment and claim 8 as recited in the amendment entered on Feb. 14, 2002 are currently pending in the application.

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Line one of page 1 of the specification must indicate that the instant application is a CPA application that claims priority from parent case 09/480,689. See MPEP 210.11, etc. Appropriate correction is required.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph within the range of 50 to 150 words. The abstract should not exceed 21 lines of text.

Appropriate correction is required.

Applicant cooperation is appreciated to correct the numerous error in specification and claims due to a translation into English from a foreign document which contains grammatical and idiomatic errors.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonora et al. ( U.S. Patent No. 5,570,990 herein after Bonora) previously applied for reasons previously set out and incorporated here by reference for the sake brevity those set out below .

With respect to claims 7 and 8 Bonora discloses substantially al the method steps presently recited in the claims.

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The newly added limitation ( in claim 7) of " Selectively transmitting a communication start signal to the load are by the automatic transfer device only when the cassette is transferred to the process apparatus through the automatic transfer device ".

Bonora in col. 11 lines 26-40 states :

In operation, the clean room operator can handle container 366 using hand 364. Instead of placing container 366 on a cart, the loader stocker assembly can be moved, with container 366, to processing station 342. The loader stocker of FIG. 15 could be fully automated using the motors, gear assembly, bearings, electronics, intelligent data cards, and communication means described above. One alternative is to use the intelligent data cards and container tracking system described above so that after a container is removed from a port, the operator is notified by a display or monitor where to bring the container. A fully automated system would automatically bring the container to the next processing station after receiving instructions or data from the processing tool which the container was taken from.

From the above it is seen that Bonora in its fully automated system ( i.e. recited automatic transfer device) will detect the presence of the cassette in the first processing station and only then Selectively send signal to forward the cassette to the next processing station( i.e. Applicants' recited Selectively transmitting a communication start signal to the load are by the automatic transfer device only when the cassette is transferred to the process apparatus). It is noted that if the sensor does not sense cassettes in the container the start signal to bring it to the next processing station will not given.

Therefore all of the presently recited limitations of presently recited claim 7 are taught by the applied reference Bonora.

Applicants' have not argued a separate basis for patentability of claim 8 and it is presumed that they allege it is allowable because of its dependency upon claim 7 that is alleged to be allowable.

However, as seen above claim 7 is not allowable and therefore claim 8 is also not allowable and rejected for reasons previously set out ( and incorporated by reference) and those set out herein.

Applicants' state that Examiner has not provided prior art related to claim 9. Applicants' attention is drawn to the complete reasons of rejection including applicable prior art set out in the O/A dated 8/29/01 page 4 at least lines 2-20 and incorporated by reference in the previous( Final rejection).

Claim 9 was also alleged to be allowable because of its dependency upon claim 7 that is alleged to be allowable.

However as seen above claim 7 is not allowable and therefore claim 9 is also not allowable and is rejected for reasons set out previously over the combined teachings of Bonora and Hwang ( U.S. P. NO. 6,238,160) and those set out herein.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 8/23/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. for reasons set out in detail above.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Steven H. Rao whose telephone number is (703) 306-

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5945. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday from approximately 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

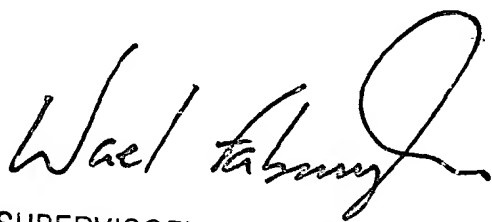
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. The Group facsimile number is (703) 308-7724.



Steven H. Rao

Patent Examiner

Oct 31, 2002



SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800